



# Education Watch

Enhancing Flexibility & Accountability ■ Leaving No Child Behind

U.S. House Education & the Workforce Committee ■ John Boehner, Chairman  
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## Accountability and Flexibility Are Key Components of Bush Plan

The House has begun debate on H.R. 1, the *No Child Left Behind Act*. Action on the President's education bill will resume Monday evening with final passage expected next week.

As Education Secretary Rod Paige has noted, the President's education plan is built on four pillars: testing and accountability, local control and flexibility, research-based reform, and expanded parental options.

Next week, the House will consider an amendment offered by Reps. Pat Tiberi (R-OH) and Michael Castle (R-DE) that would enhance the local control components of the President's plan. The Tiberi-Castle amendment would expand on the unprecedented local flexibility already in H.R. 1 to give 100 local districts in 50 states relief from nearly all federal requirements in exchange for a promise to produce better results for students.

In contrast, Reps. Barney Frank (D-MA) and Peter Hoekstra (R-MI) will offer an amendment that threatens the heart of President Bush's accountability provisions. The Hoekstra-Frank amendment to strike the requirement that states using federal education dollars test students annually in grades 3-8 in reading and math, eliminating the President's efforts to improve results for students and preserving the status quo in federal education spending.

### Message of the Day

**Accountability and flexibility are pillars of the Bush education plan. Washington has increased education spending for 35 years without insisting on accountability.**

- ❑ *States using federal education dollars should be expected to deliver results for students.*
- ❑ *States and local school districts should have the flexibility to design programs that address students' unique needs.*
- ❑ *The American public has made its choice clear: We need to uphold the testing requirements in H.R. 1.*

### DAILY EDUCATION FACTS

- A new poll conducted by Peter Hart and Robert Teeter for the Educational Testing Service (ETS) found that 76 percent of the American public supports the Bush plan to require states to annually test students in grades 3-8 in reading and math.
- A poll conducted last month by the Winston Group, a widely respected GOP national polling firm, found that conservatives support testing by a large margin of 80-16 percent.
- H.R. 1 explicitly bans national testing, federally controlled curricula, and national teacher tests.

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"H.R. 1 reflects each of the four pillars of President Bush's education reform plan -- accountability, flexibility and local control, research-based reform and expanded parental options."* **Education Secretary Rod Paige, May 9, 2001**